

“Today’s lesson: In global fight for brains, Mich. must get armed”

- Daniel Howes, Detroit News, May 4, 2005

“This time he (Hoogendyk), has the support of House Speaker Craig DeRoche, R-Novi, who said in a news release announcing the proposal, “Anything we can do to encourage and facilitate access to higher education for Michigan students is a wise investment in Michigan’s future.”

- *High-schoolers may get head start on college classes* – Lansing State Journal, March 26, 2006

“It (HB 5903 & 5904) addresses a key point in the state’s 2004 Cherry Commission recommendations for education: Only 9,000 of 88,000 eligible high school students attend any community college classes. If they’re ready for college, high school students should be allowed to go for it. Full-time, with state aid.”

- *students are more than ready for college* – Editorial, The Bay City Times, Wednesday, April 5, 2006

“In the past, “we thought high school has to be four years and college has to be four years,” says Gov. Mark Warner of Virginia, a Democrat and chairman of the National Governors Association. “These are notions that need to be revisited.”

- *We need cure for ‘Senioritis,’ governors say*, USA Today, Tuesday, April 19, 2005

“Governors cite a ripple effect: leaving high school early frees up classroom space, which reduces construction costs for new schools. Students save on tuition by taking college-level classes early, and states pay less to subsidize tuition at state universities.”

- same article

“Michigan State University President Lou Anna Simon suggests turning the 12<sup>th</sup> grade into a transitional year in which students spend much of their time taking college courses, working outside the school in internships, or pursuing vocational training.”

- *State high schools fail their customers* – Detroit News, Sunday, October 9, 2005

“Gov. Jennifer Granholm Monday will announce a plan to double the rate of college graduates in Michigan over the next 10 years. . . Granholm is tapping Lt. Gov. John Cherry to head a commission . . .”

- *Granholm hopes to double college grads* – Kalamazoo Gazette, March 2004

“In a survey of nearly 470 dropouts throughout the country, nearly 50 percent said they left school because their classes were boring . . .”

- *New Report Illuminates America’s “Silent” Dropout Epidemic* – Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, March 2, 2006

“Sometime in the coming year the State Board of Education will recommend the next step in its high school reforms: expanding the number of high school students also enrolled in college”

- Gongwer, Tuesday, April 11, 2006

“I could see all kids in this state at the end of five years having a high school diploma and a college associate’s degree,” said Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan.”

- Gongwer, Tuesday, April 11, 2006

“Mr. Flanagan argued some of the issue is the schools having the will to try a new program. “is it kids first or is it money first?” he said. “There is appoint where if you do the math it still works out ok for the districts.”

- Gongwer, Tuesday, April 11, 2006

“Flanagan also took aim at the turf and money issues. “The system, because of finances will resist us,” he said. “But is it kids first or is it money first? More kids are lost in schools from dropping out than to colleges.”

- MIRS, Tuesday, April 11, 2006

### **“Out and About” – Portage Gazette, Monday, April 17, 2006**

“But I think Jack has his finger on a very good idea: Let’s push this idea of early college courses harder for those that are intellectually able. Maybe by the time they graduate from high school, they could have a year or two of college as a blend.” - Russell Mohny, 73, retired physician, Portage

“I think it’s a good idea, actually . . . and I think if some schools feel some pressure, that’s fine. . .”

- Mark Austin, 49, physician, Portage

“I think if the money could be applied to them going to college and (thus allow them to) not work up the debt, (it would be good), because I know I got bored junior and senior year. I was like, ‘OK, I just want to get out; I want this to be done.’ I think (sophomores) can take the test and test out, it could work. If you could get (all the requirements) done freshman and sophomore year, then you could test out and go straight to college. (It makes sense ) because I know some kids that I graduated with that were smarter than all else, and they got real antsy and real bored. So why not just move ‘em up if they can do it?”

- Chrissie Lawrence, 21 retail supervisor, Kalamazoo